

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 018377  
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: S/S:PTARNOFF:BABS

APPROVED BY: S/S:PTARNOFF

-----113549 240340Z /62

O 240248Z JAN 78 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

DOD IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 018377

NODIS

CHEROKEE MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

WHITE HOUSE FOR DR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

DOD FOR SECRETARY BROWN ONLY

TEL AVIV FOR AMBASSADOR ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT JERUSALEM 216 ACTION SECSTATE JAN 23

QUOTE: S E C R E T JERUSALEM 0216

NODIS CHEROKEE

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR LEWIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, IS, US, XF

SUBJECT: WEIZMAN'S TRIP TO WASHINGTON

1. ROY ATHERTON AND I MET WITH WEIZMAN THIS EVENING, JANUARY 23, AT  
HIS REQUEST. I AM REPORTING SEPARATELY ON HIS APPRECIATION

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 018377

OF THE GENERAL NEGOTIATING SITUATION AND POSSIBLE WAYS  
TO GET IT BACK ON THE TRACK. HIS FIRST CONCERN, HOWEVER,  
WAS HIS IMPENDING TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES.

2. WEIZMAN HAS COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT HE OUGHT TO  
POSTPONE HIS TRIP IN ORDER TO GIVE HIGHEST PRIORITY TO A POSSIBLE  
RETURN TO THE CAIRO MILITARY COMMITTEE. HE BELIEVES THAT

IT COULD WELL COMPLICATE MATTERS FURTHER WITH THE EGYPTIANS IF HE COMES TO WASHINGTON AT THIS TIME, AND HE THINKS HE OUGHT TO STAY CLOSE TO JERUSALEM WHILE IMPORTANT DECISIONS ARE BEING DISCUSSED CONCERNING THE NEGOTIATING STRATEGY AND TACTICS PURSUED BY THE ISRAELIS. HE HAS NOT YET DISCUSSED THIS WITH BEGIN, BUT WANTED TO GET MY REACTION AND WASHINGTON'S BEFORE DOING SO.

3. ROY AND I REALIZE THIS IS A MATTER WHICH LIES IN HAROLD BROWN'S COURT SINCE WEIZMAN WILL BE HIS OFFICIAL GUEST. BUT THE ISSUE IS PUT TO US IN A DIPLOMATIC RATHER THAN A MILITARY CONTEXT AND WE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF YOU DISCUSSED IT DIRECTLY WITH BROWN.

4. WEIZMAN ASKS IF WE COULD OBTAIN QUICKLY FOR HIM AN ANSWER TO ONE QUESTION: WHETHER DELAYING HIS VISIT WOULD AFFECT ADVERSELY ANY OF THE ARMS SUPPLY DECISIONS WHICH ARE PENDING. (EVEN IF THAT WERE THE CASE, HE SAID THAT A COUPLE OF MONTHS DELAY IN GETTING F-16'S WAS LESS IMPORTANT IN HIS JUDGMENT THAN KEEPING THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS FROM GOING IRREVOCABLY OFF THE TRACKS.) WE SAID THAT WE DOUBTED THAT A DELAY WOULD HAVE AN ADVERSE EFFECT BUT WE WOULD CHECK IMMEDIATELY WITH WASHINGTON AND WOULD TRY TO GET HIM AN ANSWER TOMORROW, JANUARY 24. IN ANSWER TO BY QUESTION, WEIZMAN  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 018377

MADE CLEAR THAT HE WOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM IF PENDING DECISIONS WERE MADE AND ANNOUNCED BEFORE HIS VISIT; HE DOES NOT CARE WHETHER HE "BRINGS BACK THE GOODIES HIMSELF OR NOT." IN FACT, HE SAID HE WOULD REALLY PREFER TO DELINK HIS TRIP WITH HARDWARE DECISIONS AND TO CONCENTRATE ON DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON OF LONG-TERM STRATEGY AND OF THE ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN DIPLOMATIC AND MILITARY NEGOTIATIONS. HE SEEMED PREPARED TO DELAY AS LONG AS MARCH, RECALLING THAT HAROLD BROWN HAD EARLIER SAID HIS SCHEDULE WAS VERY FULL IN FEBRUARY AND ANY DELAY WOULD HAVE TO BE UNTIL MID-MARCH IF IT OCCURRED. HOWEVER, ROY AND I ASSUME THAT YOU COULD PERSUADE BROWN TO JUGGLE HIS SCHEDULE SUFFICIENTLY FOR A VISIT IN MID OR LATE FEBRUARY IF WEIZMAN URGED THAT SORT OF SCHEDULE.

5. BEGIN MIGHT CONCEIVABLY WISH IM TO GO ON SCHEDULE IN ANY EVENT. BUT WEIZMAN IS DETERMINED I THINK TO CONVINCE HIM THAT A DELAY WOULD SERVE IMPORTANT DIPLOMATIC AND POLITICAL PURPOSES. IF WE CAN TELL HIM QUICKLY THAT DELAY WOULD NOT AFFECT ADVERSELY WASHINGTON DECISION ON MAJOR SUPPLY ISSUES, THEN I THINK HE WILL DEFINITELY DECIDE TO COME AT A LATER POINT.

6. ROY MAKES THE POINT THAT POSTPONEMENT OF WEIZMAN VISIT  
WOULD OBVIOUSLY MAKE MANAGEMENT OF MILITARY DECISIONS FOR  
ISRAEL MORE MANAGEABLE WITH THE ARABS, SINCE IT WOULD LOWER  
VISIBILITY AND MEDIA ATTENTION TO CONTEXT IN WHICH THOSE  
DECISIONS ARE TAKEN. WEIZMAN HIMSELF HINTED AT THIS  
ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATION. NOTING THAT ISRAELI MEDIA WOULD SEEK  
TO PORTRAY POSTPONEMENT AS RESULT OF US PRESSURE, HE SAID HE  
WOULD MAKE CLEAR IT WAS HIS IDEA.

7. DEPARTMENT PLEASE REPEAT THIS MESSAGE TO TEL AVIV.  
NEWLIN  
UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, PEACE, CAT-C, CHEROKEE 01/23/78, NEGOTIATIONS, MILITARY PLANS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE018377  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** S/S:PTARNOFF:BABS  
**Enclosure:** REPEAT OF JERUSALEM 216  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** N780002-0045  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 2  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780128/aaaaaxrw.tel  
**Line Count:** 128  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 51e1a1e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN NODS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** NODIS, ONLY  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** NODIS, ONLY  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01 jun 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3722581  
**Secure:** LOCK1  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** WEIZMAN'S TRIP TO WASHINGTON  
**TAGS:** MILI, MASS, IS, US, XF, (WEIZMAN, EZER)  
**To:** TEL AVIV WHITE HOUSE MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/51e1a1e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014